

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 CCO-00 INRE-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-15

RSC-01 INR-10 PRS-01 USSS-00 OPR-02 SY-10 OC-06 EUR-25

IO-15 AF-10 ACDA-19 DRC-01 /148 W

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O 081925Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5127

INFO AMCONSUL DHAHRAN NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T JIDDA 4356

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, SA

SUBJECT: SAUDIS PUZZLED AND CONCERNED OVER CONTINUED FIGHTING.

REF: JIDDA 4352

1. MININT PRINCE FAHD'S ASSISTANT, MAHMOUD MALHAS ON OCT 8 REPORTED ROYAL ADVISORS PUZZLED OVER LACK OF ALL-OUT ISRAELI ATTACK AND RELATIVE SUCCESSES OF EGYPTIAN AND SYRIAN ARMIES. ADVISORS NOW SPECULATING GOI MAY BE PLOTTING DELIVERATELY TO TEMPT INVOLVEMENT FIRST JORDAN AND ULTIMATELY THE BEST FRIEND OF THE U.S. IN ARAB WORLD, SAUDI ARABIA, BEFORE SMASHING THE COMBINED ARAB FORCES. COMMENT: THIS MAY BE ONE ARGUMENT USED TO TEMPORARILY DEFER ANY SAUDI DECISION TO DECLARE ITS INVOLVEMENT.

2. MALHAS EXPRESSED GRAVE APPREHENSION ABOUT JORDANIAN ABILITY TO LAUNCH ANY ATTACK, ARGUING KING HUSSEIN MUST RESIST PRESSURES ON HIM BECAUSE HE HAS NO SUITABLE GEOGRAPHICAL POSITION FROM WHICH TO LAUNCH SUCH AN ATTACK.

3. SAUDIS CLOSELY WATCHING REACTIONS OF OTHER ARAB

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NATIONALIST STATES, INCLUDING OIL-RICH ONES IN PARTICULAR,

AND WERE DISMAYED, WE ARE TOLD, BY QADHAFI STATEMENT
THAT EVEN THOUGH HE HAD NOT BEEN INFORMED BEFOREHAND AND
THOUGH ATTACK WAS A MISTAKE, HE WOULD HELP THE COMBATANTS,
WIN OR LOSE.

4. USMTM REPORTS ALERT ANNOUNCEMENT HAS MADE NO REPEAT
NO DIFFERENCE WHATEVER IN SOMNOLENT STATE OF MODA AFTER
LUNCH. CONCLUDE THAT THE DECISION TO ANNOUNCE ALERT OF
LOW MILITARY SIGNIFICANCE.

5. DIWAN WILL BE FOCUSING ON SC DEBATE THIS EVENING.
HORAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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